

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application;

--1. (Cancelled)

--2. (Currently Amended) A multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus comprising ~~at least~~:

a portable housing having a hand grip and being of a size to be carried by one hand of a user by using the hand grip;

a center speaker arranged in the portable housing;

left and right speakers separably attached to the portable housing;

recording and reproducing means arranged in the portable housing capable of recording and reproducing a recording medium;

surround decoding means arranged in the portable housing for decoding a multichannel acoustic signal from the recording and reproducing means to produce surround phonic sound;

first switching means arranged in the portable housing for reproducing a first predetermined number of channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means through the center speaker and the left and right speakers, and second switching means for switching and outputting remaining channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means; and

control means for controlling the recording and reproducing means, the surround decoding means and the first

and second switching means,

wherein channel signals of the remaining channels from the second switching means are supplied to a television receiver having speakers and capable of reproducing the channel signals as surround phonic sound in conjunction with the left, right, and center speakers.

--3. (Currently Amended) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

the channel signals from the second switching means are ~~transmitted~~ fed to the television receiver by a single cable ~~consisting of one wire;~~ and

the left, right, and center speakers are used as rear speakers and are located behind the user.